

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1, 7 and 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,771,053. Claims 16 and 17 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

Applicant is submitting a terminal disclaimer in the same package as the present response, thereby overcoming the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of Claims 1-15 and 18-20.

Claims 14, 15 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Drori et al. (U.S. Patent 5,084,667) in view of Nygaard, Jr. (U.S. Patent 4,477,920).

Claim 14 has been amended to incorporate the language of Claim 17, thereby rendering Claim 14 allowable. Claims 15 and 18, which depend from Claim 14, are allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 14.

Claim 19 has been amended from a dependent claim to an equivalent independent claim. New Claims 21-24, which depend from Claim 19, are allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 19. Support for new Claims 21-24 exists in the specification as originally filed (See, e.g., original Claims 15-18.)

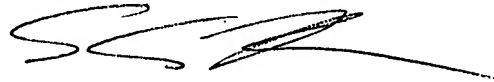
New Claim 25, which is similar to original Claim 18, recites "a memory circuit coupled to store an identity of a single-turned on one of the first switching devices, wherein the memory circuit is configured to store the identity only if the identity is different from an identity already stored in the memory circuit". Support for this amendment appears in the specification as originally filed in paragraph [0028]. No new matter is added.

Drori et al. teach that during the "updating process, the value stored in programmable read only memory 22 is not changed." (Drori et al., Col. 4, lines 46-47.) "The value stored into programmable read only memory 22 is preferably only updated when the value stored in counter 18 reaches its final value." (Drori et al., Col. 4, lines 59-64.) Drori et al. therefore fail to teach "a memory circuit" as recited by Claim 25.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-15 and 18-25 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-15 and 18-24 should be allowable in view of the accompanying Terminal Disclaimer. Consideration and allowance of Claim 25 is requested. If there are any questions, please telephone the undersigned at (925) 895-3545 to expedite prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,



Customer No.: 22888

E. Eric Hoffman
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 38,186

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9-9-05 Carrie Reddick
Date Signature: Carrie Reddick